

**REMARKS**

**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-12 are currently pending in the application.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claim 2 has been canceled. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment.

**II. Claims Objections:**

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, the Applicant has rewritten the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Specifically, claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, which has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In view of the above, the claim objections to claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11 should be withdrawn.

**III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b):**

Claims 1, 4, 7 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hamano (USP 5,751,496, hereafter "Hamano").

Claims 4, 7 and 9 depend from claim 1. Claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, which has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the previous Office Action.

In view of the above, the Applicant believes that claim 1 is now allowable. Additionally, claims 4, 7 and 9 are believed to be allowable based on their dependency on claim 1.

**IV. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):**

Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hamano as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Terda (USP 6,278,845, hereafter "Terda").

Claim 12 also depends from claim 1. Claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the

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limitations of claim 2, which has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the previous Office Action.

In view of the above, the Applicant believes that claim 12 is allowable based on its dependency from claim 1.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

**AUTHORIZATION**

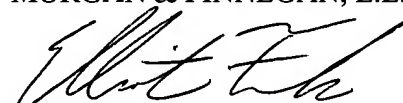
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-5374. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-5374. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: April 8, 2005

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